

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A wake control mechanism for a watercraft ~~wherein the one or more wake control plates, the wake control mechanism comprising:~~
~~one or more length adjustable rods; and~~
~~one or more wake control plates, wherein the wake control plates are attached to the stern of the watercraft by the one or more length adjustable rods[[:]] such that the plate's front edge can be positioned below the transom stern and[[:]] are inclined to a set or controllable angle so as to scoop water upward, or are alternately set in the traditional trim tab position; to produce a negative lift to force the stern of the watercraft into a body of the water to increase a size of a wake created by the watercraft are of any size; and are either flat or curved upward.~~
2. (Currently Amended) The wake control mechanism for watercraft as described in claim 1 wherein the ~~[[said]]~~ one or more length adjustable rods connect to ~~any location on or near the~~ a stern of the watercraft ~~and any location on the said one or more wake control plates except in a straight line~~, so as to hold the ~~[[said]]~~ one or more wake control plates ~~in the desired position with the front edge of the one or more wake control plates in the body of the water.~~
3. (Currently Amended) The wake control mechanism for watercraft as described in claim 1 wherein the ~~[[said]]~~ one or more length adjustable rods are adjusted ~~hydraulically or through another power assistance.~~
4. (Currently Amended) The wake control mechanism for watercraft as described in claim 1 wherein the ~~[[said]]~~ one or more length adjustable rods are ~~adjusted manually adapted for manual adjustment.~~
- 5.-7. (Cancelled).

8. (Currently Amended) A wake control mechanism for a watercraft ~~wherein the one or more wake control plates, the wake control mechanism comprising:~~

~~one or more length adjustable rods and one or more connections with fixed lengths [[are]]
] attached to [[the]] a stern of the watercraft ~~through one or more length adjustable rods~~
~~and one or more connections with fixed lengths; and~~~~
~~one or more wake control plates that are of any shape and size; are adapted to couple
with the watercraft via the one or more connections with fixed lengths; can be positioned
in [[the]] a body of water by the [[said]]one or more length adjustable rods; can be
submersed under the stern of the watercraft[[;]] and can be controlled independently or
dependently from the other one or more wake control plates to produce a negative lift to
force the stern of the watercraft into a body of the water to increase a size of a wake
created by the watercraft.~~

9. (Currently Amended) The wake control mechanism ~~for watercraft~~ as described in claim 8
wherein the ~~[[said]]one or more length adjustable rods connect to non-rigid joints on both the~~
~~wake control plate and the stern of the watercraft, where a said non-rigid joints are [[is a~~
~~]]connections that allow[[s]] the [[said]]length adjustable rods a first approximately 180 degrees
of angular displacement in one plane and approximately 30 degrees of a second angular
displacement in the direction perpendicular to [[that]]the one plane.~~

10. (Currently Amended) The wake control mechanism ~~for watercraft~~ as described in claim 8
wherein the ~~[[said]]one or more connections with fixed lengths attach to non-rigid joints on the~~
~~wake control plate and rotating joints on the stern of the watercraft, where a said non-rigid joints~~
~~are [[is a]]connections that allow[[s]] the said rods one or more connections with fixed lengths~~
~~approximately 180 degrees of a first angular displacement in one plane and approximately 30~~
~~degrees of a second angular displacement in the direction perpendicular to [[that]]the one plane~~

and a said the rotating joints are [[is a]]connections which let[[s]] the said rods one or more connections with fixed lengths rotate approximately 180 degrees a third angular displacement about the connection rotating joints.

11.-16. (Cancelled)

17. (New) An apparatus for controlling a size of a wake of a watercraft, the apparatus comprising:

a wake control plate for scooping water; and
one or more arms to couple with the wake control plate, wherein at least one of the one or more arms has an adjustable length adapted to position a front edge of the wake control plate, with respect to a direction of motion, into a body of the water to scoop the water, wherein scooping the water provides a negative lift that lowers a stern of the watercraft into the body of the water to increase the size of the wake.

18. (New) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the wake control plate couples with the arms via one or more non-rigid joints, wherein the non-rigid joints have an angular flexibility in a plane perpendicular to a plane of the adjustable length to increase a magnitude of the negative lift.

19. (New) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the one or more arms comprises a first arm to couple with a back end of the wake control plate with respect to the direction of motion, having an adjustable length to adjust an angle of the wake control plate with respect to a transom of the watercraft.

20. (New) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the first arm is adapted to lower the front edge of the wake control plate to a height essentially of a bottom of the transom of the watercraft

and positioning the back end of the wake control plate at or below the height to utilize the wake control plate as a trim tab.

21. (New) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the wake control plate is flat.

22. (New) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the wake control plate comprises a curved, wake control plate adapted to increase a magnitude of the negative lift when the front edge of the wake control plate is submersed into the body of the water.

23. (New) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the curved, wake control plate comprises a curvature adapted to conform to a bottom edge of the stern of the watercraft.

24. (New) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the wake control plate comprises one or more walls adapted to accumulate the water to produce the negative lift.

25. (New) A method for controlling a size of a wake for a watercraft in a body of water, the method comprising:

adjusting a length of an arm;
lowering a front edge of a wake control plate with respect to a direction in which the water flows, into the body of the water in response to lengthening the arm;
scooping the water to apply a negative lift to the wake control plate; and
transmitting the negative lift to the arm, the negative lift being capable of lowering a stern of the watercraft sufficiently into the body of the water while the watercraft is moving to increase the size of the wake.

26. (New) The method of claim 25, further comprising actuating a hydraulic system to adjust the length of the arm.

27. (New) The method of claim 25, further comprising shortening the length of the arm to raise the front edge of the wake control plate out of the body of the water.

28. (New) The method of claim 25, further comprising adjusting a tilt of the wake control plate to adjust a magnitude of the negative lift.

29. (New) The method of claim 25, further comprising adjusting an angle of the wake control plate in a plane perpendicular to a plane of the length of the arm to increase a magnitude of the negative lift.

30. (New) The method of claim 25, further comprising independently adjusting a length of a second arm coupled with another wake control plate to adjust a shape of the wake.

31. (New) The method of claim 25, further comprising accumulating the water above a surface of the body of the water to increase the size of the wake.

32. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein transmitting the negative lift comprises transmitting the negative lift to the stern of the watercraft.

33. (New) A watercraft for controlling a size of a wake in a body of water, the watercraft comprising:

one or more arms pivotally coupled with the watercraft, at least one of which has an adjustable length;

a wake control plate coupled with the one or more arms, for scooping the water; and

a driver coupled with the one or more arms to adjust a length of at least one of the one or more arms to position a front edge of the wake control plate into the body of the

water to scoop the water to produce a negative lift, wherein the negative lift lowers a stern of the watercraft further into the body of the water to adjust the size of the wake.

34. (New) The watercraft of claim 33, wherein the wake control plate couples with the arms via one or more non-rigid joints, wherein the non-rigid joints have an angular flexibility in a plane parallel to a plane of a surface of the body of the water.

35. (New) The watercraft of claim 33, wherein a first arm of the one or more arms has an adjustable length to adjust an angle of the wake control plate with respect to the stern of the watercraft.

36. (New) The watercraft of claim 33, wherein the first arm is adapted to lower the front edge of the wake control plate to a height of a bottom of the stern of the watercraft and positioning a back end of the wake control plate at or below the height to utilize the wake control plate as a trim tab.

37. (New) The watercraft of claim 33, wherein the wake control plate is flat.

38. (New) The watercraft of claim 33, wherein the wake control plate comprises a curved, wake control plate adapted to increase a magnitude of the negative lift when the front edge of the wake control plate is submersed into the body of the water.

39. (New) The watercraft of claim 38, wherein the curved, wake control plate comprises a curvature adapted to conform to a bottom edge of the stern of the watercraft.

40. (New) The watercraft of claim 33, wherein the wake control plate comprises one or more walls adapted to accumulate the water to increase a magnitude of the negative lift.

41. (New) The watercraft of claim 33, wherein submersion of the wake control plate and another wake control plate is adapted to adjust a shape of the wake.

42. (New) The watercraft of claim 33, wherein the wake control plate is incorporated with a bait tank, swim platform, ladder, or motor mount.